## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03830 100919Z POSS DUPE ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-01 /062 W

-----071131 110643Z/20

R 100655Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8625 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EIND, LE

SUBJ: ACTIVITY AT SHEKKA CEMENT PLANTS

REF: BEIRUT 3694

- 1. CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATIONS REFTEL, CEMENT PLANTS AT SHEKKA RESTARTED OPERATIONS THIS WEEK, ENDING 5-WEEK SHUTDOWN THAT RESULTED FROM FACTIONAL CONFRONTATIONS IN MAY AND JUNE. LARGEST PLANT STARTED FIRST OF FIVE KILNS JULY 6, PLANS RESTART ONE PER DAY UNTIL FULL CAPACITY REACHED JULY 10. SECOND PLANT REATARTING FIRST KILN TODAY JULY 7. GYPSUM PLANT ALSO REPORTED BACK IN OPERATION.
- 2. A JOINT LEBANESE GENDARME (ISF)-ADF FORCE IS PROTECTING THE PLANTS. THIS ARRANGEMENT REPRESENTS A POLITICAL COMPROMISE THAT HAS BEEN LOST TO US IN THE PAROXYSM AFFLICTING BEIRUT, BUT WE WILL BE LOOKING INTO IT.

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3. REACTIVATION OF SHEKKA IS A GOOD SIGN. FURTHER SURPRISES OF THIS SORT ARE WELCOME AT ANY TIME. DECONTROL 7/1/79. PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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